

UNCLASSIFIED

11/18/77

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VV ESA191ASA595
RR RUESBA
DE RUESAS #4729 3221324
ZNY CCCCC ZZH
R 181237Z NOV 77
FM AMEMBASSY ASUNCION
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 1611
INFO RUESBA/AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES 3636
BT

TO	ACT	INF	TO	ACT	INF
AMB		/	DAO		
DCM		/	I GATT		
			CEA		
POL	3		FAS		
ECOM			AID		
POI/R		/	MLGP		
CO S		/	P		
ADM			G		
USIS			B F		
SCI			C N		/
SY			F		/

ASUNCION 4729

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: SHUM, PA
SUBJ: MENDEZ FLEITAS DETENTION

REF: BUENOS AIRES 8669

1. AT BRIEF ENCOUNTER WITH FONMIN NOGUES NOVEMBER 16 HE ASKED CHARGE IF USG HAD TAKEN NOTE OF RELEASE IN ARGENTINA OF EPIFANIO MENDEZ FLEITAS. HE ADDED THAT NOTWITHSTANDING CLAIMS BY MENDEZ (SIX) THAT HE HAD BEEN ARRESTED BY THE ARGENTINE POLICE AT GOP'S REQUEST, THIS SIMPLY WAS NOT TRUE AND GOP HAD HAD NOTHING AT ALL TO DO WITH THE CASE.

2. COMMENT: AT THIS POINT WE CAN ONLY SPECULATE WHETHER NOGUES DISCUSSED THE MENDEZ CASE WITH GOA DURING HIS SHORT VISIT TO BA, OR WHETHER HE MAY IN FACT HAVE URGED GOA TO RELEASE MENDEZ BECAUSE OF THE UNWELCOME PUBLICITY ABROAD. ALTHOUGH THIS CASE WILL SOON GATHER DUST AND LOSE ITS IMMEDIACY, WE SHALL REPORT IF/WHEN WE CAN ANSWER EITHER QUESTION.

BRIGGS

BT
#4729

ARGENTINA PROJECT (S200000044)
U.S. DEPT. OF STATE, A/RPS/IPS
Margaret P. Grafeld, Director
(☒ Release) (☐ Excise) (☐ Deny)
Exemption(s):

Declassify: (☐ In Part) (☒ In Full) *Declassify*
(☐ Classify as) (☐ Extend as) (☐ Downgrade to)
Date _____ Declassify on _____ Reason _____

UNCLASSIFIED

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